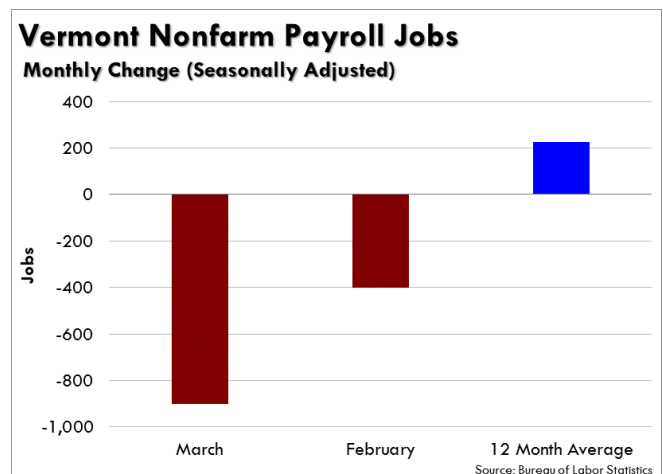
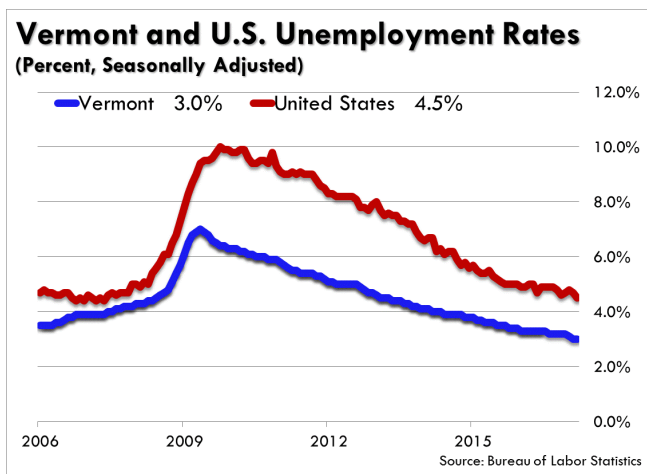


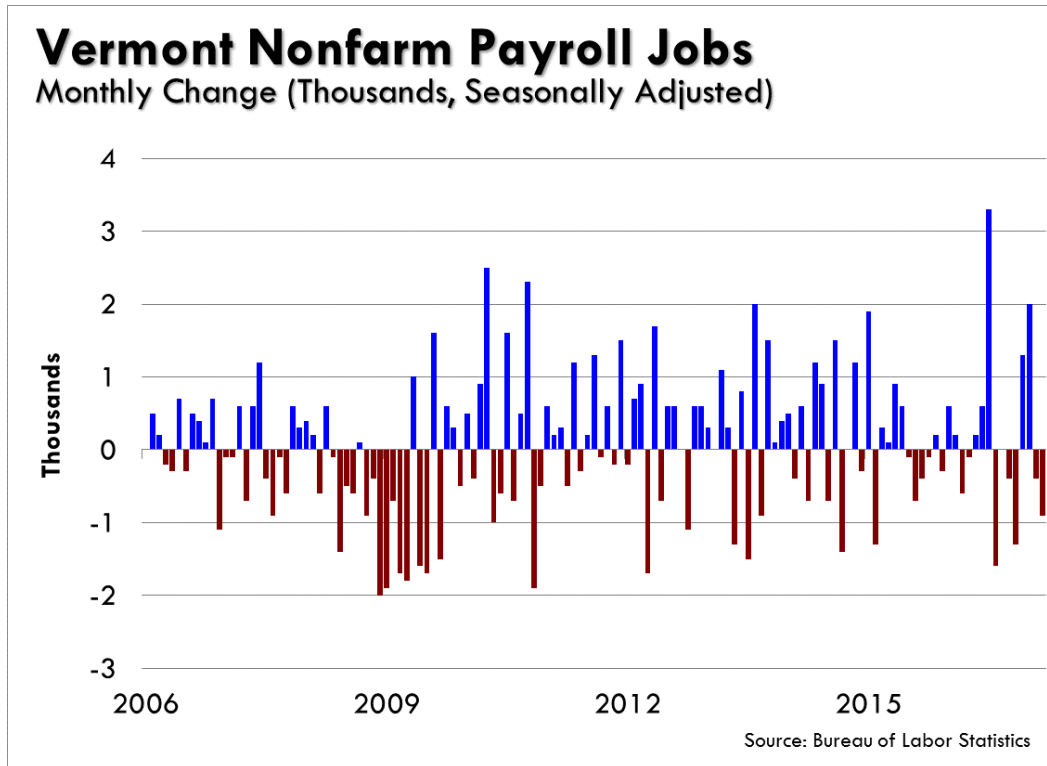


April 23, 2017

## Summary

- **Vermont lost 900 jobs and the unemployment rate was unchanged at 3 percent in March** according to Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data.
- **Over the past twelve months, Vermont added 2,700 jobs** and the unemployment rate fell by 0.3 percentage point from 3.3 percent.
- **In March, Vermont's private sector lost 1,500 jobs** and over the past twelve months it created 2,300 jobs.
- The number of **unemployed Vermonters rose by 65 in March**, and over the past year 3,872 Vermonters found jobs.
- Vermont's **labor force participation rate increased to 67.4 percent** from 67.3 percent in March. Since last year, the labor force participation rate rose 0.6 percentage point.
- The national unemployment rate **declined by 0.2 percentage point to 4.5 percent in March**. State employment and unemployment data for April is scheduled for release on May 19, 2017. The national employment situation report for April will be released on Friday, May 5, 2017.





### **Vermont Payroll Employment**

Vermont lost 900 jobs, or 0.29 percent, on a seasonally adjusted basis during March. In the prior month, Vermont lost 400 jobs. Over the past twelve months, nonfarm payrolls in Vermont increased by 2,700, or 0.87 percent. Vermont nonfarm payroll employment has increased in 5 of the past 12 months.

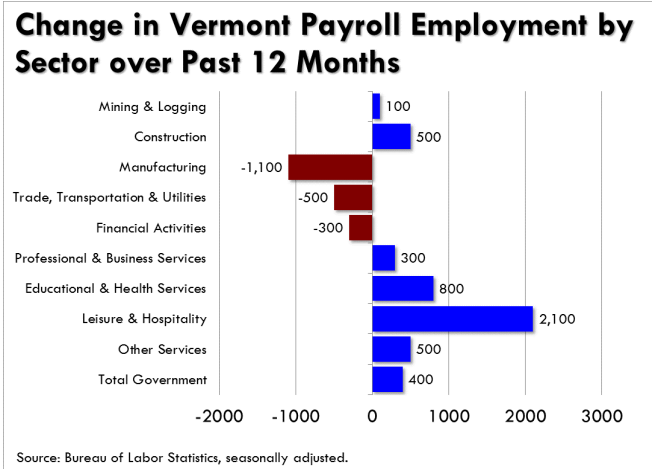
Nationally, nonfarm payrolls increased by 98,000 jobs in March, or 0.07 percent. Over the 12-month period ending March 2017, nonfarm payrolls grew by 2,185,000 jobs, or 1.52 percent. Vermont ranks 40th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in nonfarm payroll employment over the past 12 months.

During March, Vermont's private-sector lost 1,500 jobs, or 0.58 percent. The private-sector in Vermont lost 200 jobs in the prior month. Over the past twelve months, private-sector payrolls in Vermont increased by 2,300, or 0.90 percent. Vermont private-sector payroll employment has increased in 6 of the past 12 months.

Nationally, private-sector payroll jobs increased by 89,000 jobs in March, or 0.07 percent. Over the past 12 months, the nation's economy has added 2,033,000 jobs in the private-sector, an increase of 1.67 percent. Vermont ranks 34th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in private-sector payroll employment over the past 12 months.

The best performing sectors on a seasonally adjusted basis during March were Total Government (+600) and Mining & Logging (+100). The poorest performing sectors during the month were Leisure & Hospitality (-1,300) and Educational & Health Services (-300).

The best performing sectors during the last twelve months were Leisure & Hospitality (+2,100) and Educational & Health Services (+800). The poorest performing sectors during the last twelve months were Manufacturing (-1,100) and Trade, Transportation & Utilities (-500).



## Vermont Labor Force Statistics

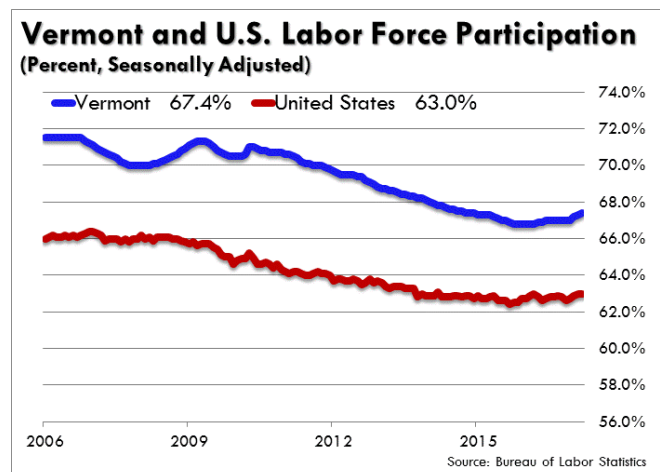
### *Labor Force Participation*

The labor force participation rate in Vermont rose to 67.4 percent in March from 67.3 percent the prior month. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 10 have a higher labor force participation rate than Vermont. The labor force participation rate in Vermont is unchanged from a year earlier. The labor force participation rate is the percentage of the civilian noninstitutionalized population age 16 and older who are employed or actively looking for work.

The 10-year high for the labor force participation rate in Vermont was 71.3 percent in May 2009. The series high for the labor force participation rate in Vermont occurred in September 1999 when the labor force participation rate hit 72.6 percent. The 10-year low for the labor force participation rate was 66.8 percent in March 2016. The series low for the labor force participation rate occurred in February 1976 when the labor force participation rate hit 62.6 percent. The national labor force participation rate was unchanged at 63.0 percent, but remains near its 38-year low of 62.4 percent.

### *Employment-to-Population Ratio*

The employment-to-population ratio, or the percentage of the Vermont civilian noninstitutionalized population 16 years and older counted as employed, rose to 65.4 percent in March from 65.3 percent the prior



month. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 9 have higher employment-to-population ratios than Vermont. The employment-to-population ratio in Vermont is 0.7 percentage point higher than a year earlier.

The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio in Vermont was 67.9 percent in April 2007. The series high for the employment-to-population ratio in Vermont occurred in August 1999 when the employment-to-population ratio hit 70.5 percent. The 10-year low for the employment-to-population ratio was 64.6 percent in February 2016. The series low for the employment-to-population ratio occurred in April 1976 when the employment-to-population ratio was 57.2 percent.

The national employment-to-population ratio rose by 0.1 percentage point to 60.1 percent in March. That rate was 0.2 percentage point higher than a year earlier. The all-time high for the employment-to-population ratio was 64.7 in April 2000. The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio was 63.4 percent in December 2006. The recent low occurred in October 2013 when the employment-to-population ratio dipped to 58.2 percent. The last time the employment-to-population ratio posted a reading lower than 58.2 percent was July 1983.

